

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) Electric household appliance for preparation of food (1), having an electric motor (3) able to drive a rotary tool (10) at a variable speed, a monitoring/control device (5) comprising means to cause the motor to operate according to at least a first operating mode and a second operating mode, means to evaluate the load or the resistive torque ( $C_1$ ,  $C_2$ ,  $C_3$ ) applied to the motor, and means for automatically switching the operation of the appliance from the first operating mode to the second operating mode when said load passes below a first predetermined threshold ( $S_B$ ), and in which, when the load passes from a value higher than the first threshold ( $S_B$ ) to a value lower than the first threshold ( $S_B$ ), the speed of operation of the appliance decreases, characterized in that the monitoring/control device (5) also comprises means to automatically switch the operation of the appliance from the second operating mode to the first operating mode when said load again passes above a second predetermined threshold ( $S_H$ ), and in that when the load passes from a value lower than the second threshold ( $S_H$ ) to a value higher than the second threshold ( $S_H$ ), the speed of operation of the appliance increases.

2. (Original) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that when the load passes from a value higher than the first threshold ( $S_B$ ) to a value lower than the first threshold ( $S_B$ ), the speed of operation of the appliance decreases by at least 5%.

3. (Previously presented) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that when the load passes from a value lower than the second threshold ( $S_H$ ) to a value higher than the second threshold ( $S_H$ ), the speed of operation of the appliance increases by at least 5%.

4. (Previously presented) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that the predetermined load thresholds for the automatic reduction ( $S_B$ ) and/or increase ( $S_H$ ) of the speed of the motor, depend on the initial speed value.

5. (Previously presented) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that the predetermined thresholds ( $S_B$ ,  $S_H$ ) are identical for the reduction and automatic increase of the speed.

6. (Previously presented) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that it has means to additionally decrease the speed when the load ( $C_3$ ) remains below the predetermined threshold for the reduction of the speed for a predetermined length of time.

7. (Previously presented) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that the assigned speed after reduction is a function of the measured value of the load.

8. (Previously presented) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that the means to detect the load applied to the motor include means (15) to measure the electrical current consumed by the motor, or the voltage at the terminals of the motor (3).

9. (Previously presented) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that the means to detect the load

applicable to the motor include means for measurement of the acoustic noise generated by the appliance.

10. (Previously presented) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that the speed of the motor is reduced to a non-zero value when the load passes below the first predetermined threshold ( $S_B$ ).

11. (Previously presented) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that the speed of the motor is reduced by at least 15% when the load passes below the first predetermined threshold ( $S_B$ ).

12. (Previously presented) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that the speed of the motor is reduced by at least 30% when the load passes below the first predetermined threshold ( $S_B$ ).

13. (Previously presented) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that the electric motor (3) is a universal motor.

14. (New) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that said means to cause the motor to operate according to at least a first operating mode and a second operating mode are operative to switch the motor operation directly between the first and second operating modes.

15 (New) Appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that the speed of operation of the appliance decreases only when the load passes from the value higher than the first threshold ( $S_B$ ) to the value lower than the first threshold ( $S_B$ ) and the speed of operation of the appliance increases only when the load passes from the value lower than

the second threshold ( $S_H$ ) to the value higher than the second threshold ( $S_H$ ).